Patent Application Attorney Docket No.: 57983.000131 Client Reference No.: 15901ROUS01U

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

:

Robert SHEFFIELD et al.

Group Art Unit: unassigned

Appln. No.: unassigned

: Examiner: unassigned

Filed: herewith

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For: REDUCED CIRCUIT TRACE
ROUGHNESS FOR IMPROVED
SIGNAL PERFORMANCE

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Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the duty under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 of each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of the above-identified patent application (hereinafter, "associated individuals") to disclose all information known to that individual to be material to patentability, Applicants hereby submit attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) listing cited references. This submission is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and § 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

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The cited references, while believed to be of some relevance, are not necessarily considered to teach or suggest any aspect of the invention described and claimed in the above-identified patent application. Applicants hereby expressly reserve the right to swear behind the effective dates of any of the cited references. Applicants further reserve the right to question the relevance, materiality, and/or prior art status of any of the cited references in whole, in part, or in combination, subsequent to the filing of this information disclosure statement. This information disclosure statement is also not to be construed as a representation that a search has, or has not, been conducted or that no better art exists.

Rather, this information disclosure statement discloses only the best references of which the associated individuals are aware.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider each of the cited references, to indicate such consideration by initialing in the space provided next to each cited reference on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified), to sign the initialed Form PTO-1449 (modified), and to return a copy of the same with the next communication to the Applicants.

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For the convenience of the Examiner in considering the cited references, a copy of each of the cited references is enclosed with this communication. In considering the cited references, it may be noted by the Examiner that certain of the references may contain markings, underlinings, and/or other notations. These markings, underlinings, and/or other notations are not to be construed as drawing the Examiner's attention either to selected parts or away from other parts of the cited references. Any such markings were either present on the copies of the cited references obtained by the associated individuals, or were made thereon during the study of the references by the associated individuals.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b), this information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified patent application and before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-identified patent application. Accordingly, no statement or fee is required.

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Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas E. Anderson

Registration No. 37,063

## TEA/cyc

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Date: September 23, 2003

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